

REMARKS

Claims 1-21, and 23-32 are pending in the present Application.

I. 35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejections based on the Suzuki ('605 Patent).

Applicant appreciates, as the Examiner had indicated, that Suzuki (U.S. Patent 6,111,605) discloses information communicated from the printer to the camera is displayed upon the display monitor of the camera. Applicant, however, respectfully submits that the information communicated in the present invention differs from that of Suzuki in a substantial way.

Specifically the information in the present invention, described in the specification as "printer characteristics," may not be changed by the user. The third paragraph of page 13 of the specification has been amended to distinctly highlight this point by adding the following while not adding new matter. As discussed in the specification, and as shown on the hardware of the figures this is a "hardware" printer characteristic issue (see hardware print section 50).

In contrast, the printer information communicated to the camera from Suzuki is specifically designed and designated as user changeable through the menus disclosed in Figures 4a and 4b. Wherein Figure 4a provides the user with a menu from which to select among six possible levels of printer resolution, Figure 4b provides the user with a menu from which to select the size and direction for the printer to print the image. This is described in detail in Column 12 lines 17-25 of Suzuki copied here for convenience:

As the picture information to be inputted, there is information about a form size, an orientation of the form, a resolution, a magnification, an offset value (a position for starting printing on recording paper) or the like. Concretely, as shown in FIG. 4A and FIG. 4B, a plurality types of printer resolution as well as of form size and form direction in the printer are displayed and the user is prompted to select any of the data, thus input of picture information being executed easily.

Additionally, the claimed invention provides the user the ability to view the effects that the hardware printer characteristics will have on the quality of the image on the display monitor (see Figure 8(c)) of the camera. The present invention claims that a modified image, specifically an image that is modified by incorporation of printer characteristics, is displayed on the monitor for purposes of comparison to the original image, as captured by the camera. This is described starting at the bottom of page 37 of the specification and copied here for convenience:

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After the photographer confirms such the condition, when the photographer operates the release button, the photographing is conducted, and the image data is stored in the image storage section 17. FIG. 8(b) is a view showing the image confirmed after the image shooting that is displayed based on the image data. Further, corresponding to the printer characteristic of the print section 50, the image processing of the image data is conducted. FIG. 8(c) is a view showing the confirmation image before the print displayed according to the image data after the processing. The operator confirms the color and a size of the image shown in FIG. 8(c), and by operating the print execution button, not shown, the print is conducted.

This displaying of the image, *as modified by the hardware printer characteristics*, permits the user to view a preview image, as it will look *after printing*, thereby allowing the user to decide whether or not to actually print the image.

In the present specification, the following *hardware* print parameters, disclosed in the application, are a *partial list* that can be incorporated into the preview image; sharpness, density gradation, color gamut, image tone processing, thermal density correction and in the case of a printer using an ink ribbon, a ribbon size and color of ribbon. All of these hardware parameters affect the quality of the printed image as opposed to such parameters as location on the page for example.

Conversely, the Examiner has cited Fig. 4a of Suzuki as disclosing that the resolution of the image to be printed is displayed on the monitor. The image displayed, however, *is not displayed using the hardware printer-defined resolution* for example. Instead, as is shown in Fig. 4a, a menu for selecting a resolution, from a list of six choices available on the printer, is displayed. This menu is similar to that of Fig. 4b, which allows a user to choose from a menu the size and direction for the printer to print the image. These figures are similar in that they permit the user to select printer selectable options that will affect the printed image, however, neither one allows a user to review the effect they will have on the quality of the image. Thus, applicant respectfully submits that Suzuki, in displaying printer information in a menu format, does not teach, disclose or suggest the claimed element of previewing the image, as it will look when incorporating hardware printer characteristics into it.

Therefore, Suzuki does not disclose the previewing of an image with the effects of hardware printer characteristics incorporated into the previewed image. Thus, the claimed invention is not anticipated by Suzuki.


II. Conclusion.

It is believed that the foregoing remarks fully respond to the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Please telephone the undersigned for any reason. Applicants respectfully endeavor to cooperate with the Examiner and to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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